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Letter dated 14 October 2008 from the Permanent Representative of Rwanda to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to bring to your attention a note verbale from the Foreign Ministry of Rwanda to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (see annex). Included also is a detailed account of collaboration of the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Ex-FAR Interahamwe/Forces démocratiques de libération du Rwanda.

I request that the present letter and its annex be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Joseph **Nsengimana**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

08-54975 (E) 161008

Annex to the letter dated 14 October 2008 from the Permanent Representative of Rwanda to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Kigali, 10 October 2008

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Republic of Rwanda presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and wishes to express to you and the international community as a whole our deepest concerns in relation to the information and reports reaching us that in the current war in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, involving FARDC and rebel forces, your army is fighting in alliance with the ex-FAR Interahamwe/FDLR.

This is unacceptable and is tantamount to effectively arming and therefore strengthening these genocidal forces, contrary to the letter and spirit of the Lusaka Agreement, the Pretoria Agreement, the Nairobi communiqué, the recent Security Council resolution 1804 (2008) and the Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region, and is indeed contrary to the Tripartite Plus arrangements that we both subscribe to.

The Government of the Republic of Rwanda further expresses strong concern about recent reported atrocious acts by Democratic Republic of the Congo security agencies in the form of abducting, torturing and even killing innocent Rwandans in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo.

The Government of the Republic of Rwanda demands that the dangerous association with the very forces that are the root cause of instability in our region cease. We equally urge that the Democratic Republic of the Congo Government agencies urgently stop the harassment and torture of Rwandan citizens in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
of the Democratic Republic of the Congo
Kinshasa

The Secretary-General of the United Nations
New York

The Chairperson of the African Union Commission
Addis Ababa

European Union Special Representative to the Great Lakes
Brussels

The Government of the United States of America
Washington, D.C.

Enclosure

Evidence of collaboration among ex-FAR Interahamwe/FDLR, PARECO, Mai-Mai and FARDC in the latest fighting

Reliable sources indicate that:

1. On 20/09/2008, a meeting was held in Masisi (Nyabiondo) between FARDC 81 Bde Commander, Col. Yave Yolo with the Commander of the FDLR 2 Bn, Lt. Col. Evariste Kanzeguhera and Col. Mugabo of PARECO and was decided that Lt. Col. Kanzeguhera would coordinate all FDLR and PARECO forces in the area and deputize Col. Yave Yolo of FARDC in the ongoing offensive against CNDP and agreed that all logistics will be provided by FARDC.

2. On 20 September, FARDC 8 MR supported by 4 Bns of PARECO, FDLR 1 Div and Reserve Bde launched a major offensive against CNDP positions in Masisi and in Rutshuru territories respectively.

3. In a related development, on 21/09/2008, FARDC 82, 14, 8, and 81 Bdes supported by FDLR 2 Bn and PARECO attacked CNDP positions along Sake, Ngungu, Nyabyondo and Bihambwe.

4. On Ngungu axis, FARDC 14 Bde under Col. David Rugayi with support of FDLR 1 Bn/Reserve Bde under the command of Lt. Col. Samuel Nsengiyumva alias Cirus attacked the rear of CNDP positions.

5. In Rutshuru territory, on Kanyabayonga-Kikuku-Nyanzare axis, FARDC 15 Bde commanded by Col Richard Mwungura with reinforcement of FDLR 1 Bn/1Div under the command of Lt Col Elie Muturambirwa alias Safari Martin reinforced FARDC 15 Bde while 3 Bn/1 Div under Lt. Col Marc Habimana alias Ndinzimihigo reinforced FARDC 2 and 6 IBs under Cols Kasongo and Antoine Mushimba against CNDP forces in Runyoni and Bunagana.

6. On Katare-Kashebere axis, FARDC 81 Bde under Col Yave Yolo supported by FDLR 2Bn/1 Div under Lt. Col Jean Paul Ndinzimihigo and 02 PARECO Bns under Lt. Col Dan Safari attacked CNDP forces.

7. On 22 September, the FDLR/FOC 2 I/C Brig. Gen. Nzeyimana Stany alias Bigaruka while on a tour to South Kivu province based FDLR 2 Div, held a meeting with FDLR/2 Div Comdrs at Mwenga (FDLR 2 Div HQs). His visit was aimed at boosting morale of the combatants and to inform them about the renewed collaboration with FARDC following the latest hostilities. He asked them to be ready to support FARDC against CNDP as well as intensify cross border infiltrations inside Rwanda similar to the ones carried out between 1997-1998 so as to achieve their objective.

8. On 23 September 2008, a combined force of FARDC 15 Bde commanded by Richard Mwungura and FDLR 1 Bn/1Div under the command of Lt. Col Elie Mutarambirwa alias Safari Martin launched an attack on CNDP 1 Bde/sector II commanded by Lt Col SALONGO in Gashunga and Mweso centre, Masisi territory. The fighting followed heavy movements of FARDC and FDLR forces in the area which was originally held by CNDP. On the same date, a combined force of FARDC 2 Bde under the command of KASONGO and FDLR

3Bn/1Div launched an attack on CNDP forces in Rumangabo, Kanombe, Busanza and Nkokwe in Rutshuru territory.

9. On 24 September 2008, a coalition of FARDC 6, 2 Bdes and FDLR 3 Bn/1Div attacked CNDP positions at JTN, Rugari and South Nyanzale, 30 Km from Goma Rutshuru road.

10. On 25 September 2008, FARDC supplied military equipment (2,000 AK-47 rifles, ammunitions and RPG rockets) to FOCA in the area of Kalonge. The equipment was received by the Reserve Brigade deployed in the vicinity of the FOCA HQ.

11. An FDLR force deployed in the Katanga province on the shores of L. Tanganyika recently received fresh military supplies from FARDC 1 Navy Regiment Comdr, Brig. Gen. MADOWADOWA. The supplied military equipment include; GPMGs (04), MMGs (05), RPGs (03), 60 mm mortar (03), 80 mm mortar (03), man pack radio and 04 Motorola walkie-talkies.

Note:

1. The collusion of FARDC and Ex-Far interahamwe/FDLR is in contradiction with the Nairobi Communiqué, the recent UN resolution 1804 and the Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes region.

2. The allegations of the government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo that Rwanda violated its Sovereignty is unfounded. This allegation was also disputed by MONUC in an article: UN News Service of 9 October 2008.